

REMARKS

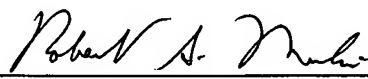
By the present Preliminary Amendment, all multiple dependency has been eliminated from the original claims, certain terminology has been revised in the interest of appropriate antecedent basis, and reference numbers have been deleted. It is to be understood that the revisions to the claims are solely for formalistic purposes and not with regard to patentability and that applicants reserve the right to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the invention encompassed by the original multiple dependent claims or described in the specification.

Entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment and favorable consideration on the merits are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC
(INCLUDING ATTORNEYS FROM BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS)

By: 
Robert G. Mukai
Registration No. 28,531

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-662

Date: January 13, 2006